

# Minutes of the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency

## August 14, 2006

Present: Chairman T. J. Brooker, Marion Esty, Thomas Cotter, Darrell Carman, and Sharon Hobart-Hardin

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Margaret Boutell, Community Services Director; Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder; Kathleen Coulson-Keegan; and Jeneca Jones, West Lane News

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Brooker called the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency to order at 9:16 p.m.

### 2. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION:** Sharon Hobart-Hardin made a motion to approve the consent agenda.  
Thomas Cotter seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Marion Esty, aye; Thomas Cotter, aye; Chairman Brooker, aye; Darrell Carman, aye; and Sharon Hobart-Hardin, aye.

The consent agenda as approved included minutes for July 10, 2006.

### 3. DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN

Chairman Brooker said the City Council has recommended that the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency accept public comments on the Downtown Master Plan. The Council also recommended that the Urban Renewal Agency adopt the plan.

#### a. Public Comment:

**Cathleen Coulson-Keegan; 25130 E. Broadway; Veneta, OR**

Cathleen Coulson-Keegan said she attended the town hall meeting to discover where Veneta's downtown is. She congratulated the community for coming together to develop a very strong definition of where the downtown should be and a plan to make it happen. She said to have a downtown where people can shop is a big asset for a community. She said she thinks Veneta has the perfect amount of space and is growing enough to have a downtown with small shops. She said the City should also consider the gateway area along Hwy 126. She said she does not feel box stores like BiMart or the orange storage units make for an attractive gateway to the community. She said the ODDA team talked about wetlands as a feature unique to Veneta and she would like to see that promoted. She said Jack Kelley Drive should be developed into a commercial wetland park with boulders, ponds, bridges, and a learning center. She said she feels that is a vision that could set Veneta apart from other communities and attract people from all over the state.

Mayor Brooker said he hopes they can incorporate that vision into the community and the downtown area.

b. Adoption of Plan

Ric said the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency needs to adopt the Downtown Plan in order to modify the Urban Renewal Plan to include the necessary improvements.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt the Downtown Master Plan. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.**

4. ADJOURN

Chairman Brooker adjourned the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency at 9:25 p.m.

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T. J. Brooker, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder  
(prepared by slhackett)